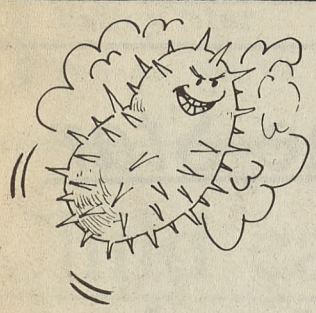


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Thursday

November 29, 1990

VALLEY STAR

Van Nuys, California

Serving Valley College for 42 years

Vol. 42, No. 10

Dean's Tea moved

Unknown substance found

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL
Staff Writer

Preparations were underway for the Dean's Tea in Monarch Hall last week when everyone in the building was evacuated by the Los Angeles County Fire Department after a strong odor was detected in the building.

Los Angeles Fire Department Battalion Chief Robert MacMillan said between noon and 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, the fire department got a report of an odor that was similar to natural gas or a pesticide.

Fire trucks from stations 102 and 88 were dispatched, along with the Hazardous Materials truck from station 39 and the Hazardous Materials Response Unit (HMRU) to pinpoint the exact cause of the smell that had emptied Monarch Hall, with the exception of the bookstore and the business office.

Alaine Jelsviak, Associated Student Union president, was in the building at the time. "It was gaseous, but it smelled sewery," she said. "As soon as we smelled it, we left the building. It's ironic, at least the Dean's Tea will be publicized now."

While inspection of Monarch Hall was underway, the Dean's Tea was relocated to the student dining room in the cafeteria.

Erica Hauck, a Valley College student, was not happy with the move. "Everything had to be moved, the choir had to cut a song because there was no piano, we're all sitting at cafeteria tables," she said. "But at least we got the administration in the cafeteria."

"If this was intentional, then it's really, really worse than malicious

... if someone did this on the day of the Dean's Tea, it shows the immaturity of the people on our campus," she added.

Hauck said the smell was very strong, "People were yelling 'evacuation.'" She said it made her dizzy and nauseous and gave her a headache.

Chris James, a criminal justice major at Valley, said he approached Monarch Hall from the outside and

"Probably, something came through the sewer system off campus. Somebody, someplace, dumped something in the sewer system that doesn't belong there. It's not natural gas, I noticed the aroma was different right away."

—Dave Ogne

smelled a "heavy, gas-odory smell. One girl passed by and she didn't look so good."

Dave Ogne, building and grounds administrator at Valley said he didn't know how this happened.

"Probably, something came through the sewer system off campus," Ogne said. "Somebody, someplace, dumped something in

the sewer system that doesn't belong there. It's not natural gas, I noticed the aroma was different right away.

"Hopefully, it'll blow away, dissolve," he added. "We're not dealing with chemicals around here, we shouldn't have that kind of problem."

More than three hours after the initial report, the officers from HMRU determined that the odor was not a health hazard and there was no need to further investigate.

"The odor was some substance that was spilled in the upper hall by the stairs," said MacMillan. "Someone probably bumped a trash can which aggravated the stuff and made it smell." "Another theory is that it was from a cat."

All theories aside, the smell was not hazardous which was the fire department's main concern.

MacMillan said he did not think that it was intentional because nobody would be "dumb enough"

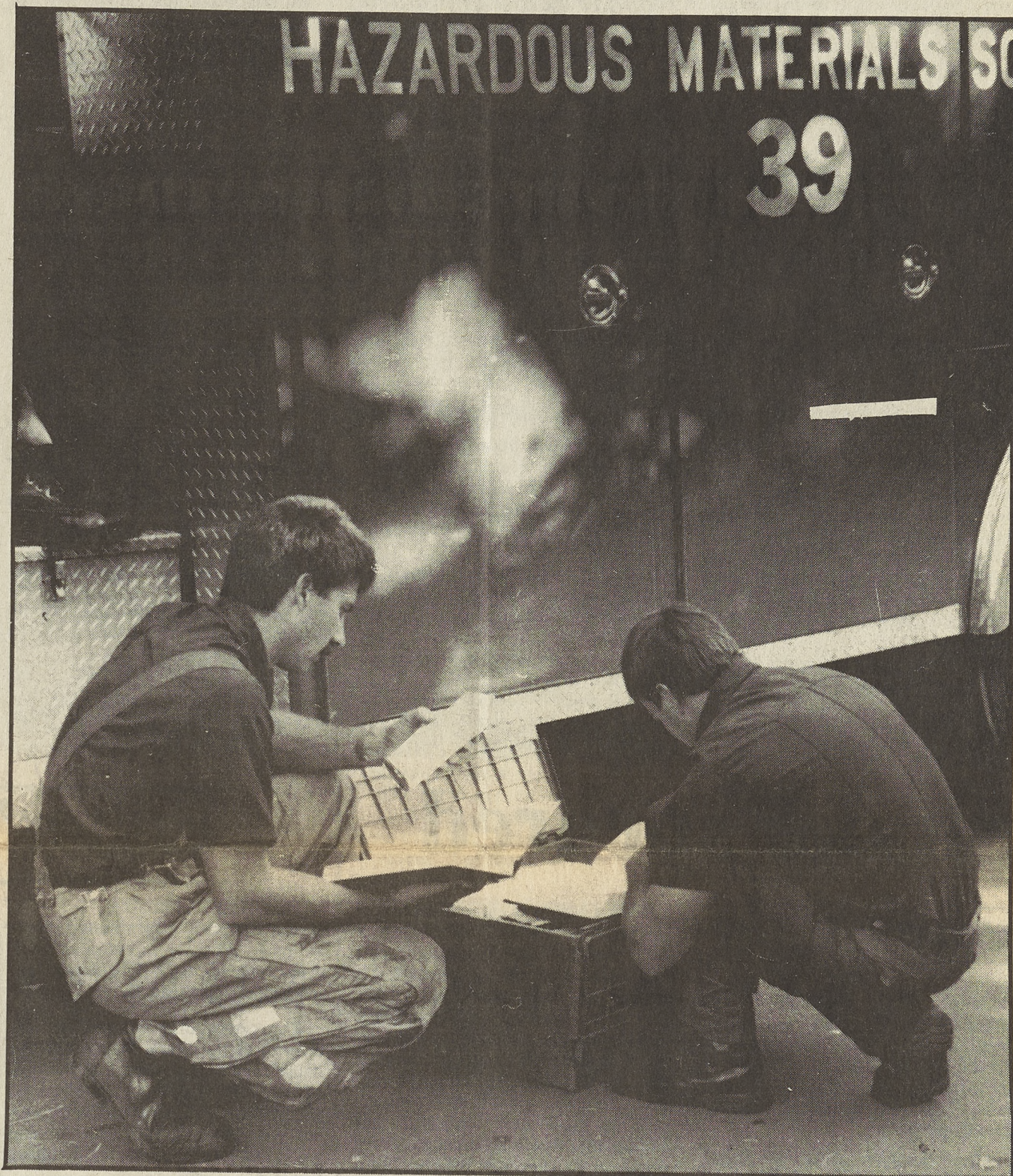
to dump it on the back stairs, if it was intentional they would have dumped it in the front.

Coincidentally, the Theater Arts building reported a "sewery" smell during the Monarch Hall incident.

Captain MacMillan said there was no relation between the two and they were not investigating. No evacuation was necessary there.

Valley College Police Officer Frank Dallas said they would clean up the spill so the odor wasn't obvious and re-open Monarch Hall within the hour.

"The final analysis of the substance was that it was some sort of organic decay that could have been caused by spilled Coca-cola or something," said campus police Captain J. J. Wolf.



AARON J. COHEN / Valley Star

THE SMELL OF THINGS—Gary Brigandi (left) and Dan Arnett, firefighters from station 39, look up the chemical composition for the ingredients of a spray can

last Wednesday which closed down the Campus Center building. The material spilled was found to be non-hazardous to people and the building re-opened.

Suspension of \$90 million headquarters defeated

By JENNIFER CASE
Staff Writer

A motion to suspend transactions to purchase a new district headquarters on Wilshire Boulevard, which will eventually cost more than \$90 million, was defeated last night at the Los Angeles Community College District's Board of Trustees meeting at Pierce College.

David Lopez Lee, president of the board, introduced the motion. The vote was 6-1 against, with Harold Garvin abstaining.

The motion also included recommending construction of a headquarters building on land associated with one of the nine campuses of the Los Angeles Community College District. One study, completed within the past year, had looked at construction of a new building at

Los Angeles City College.

Prior to the vote, Garvin said: I don't think it'll pass. We need four more votes that we probably won't get."

Defeat of the motion by Lopez-Lee apparently paves the way for the purchase of a new headquarters building at 4050 Wilshire Blvd. near Western Ave. This will cost the district more than \$90 million in the long term, according to Garvin.

"Owning is better than leasing," Blair Sillers, district spokesman, said before last night's vote. "Someone 10 years from now is going to ask why we didn't buy to reduce costs. In the long run, we'll have something to show for the money we would've spent leasing."

Sillers added that the Wilshire building was chosen from more than 55 buildings because the land value will appreciate quicker and the site

allows for possible future additions.

"Potential development was an aspect in choosing this building," Sillers said. "This building was best in cost and location as well."

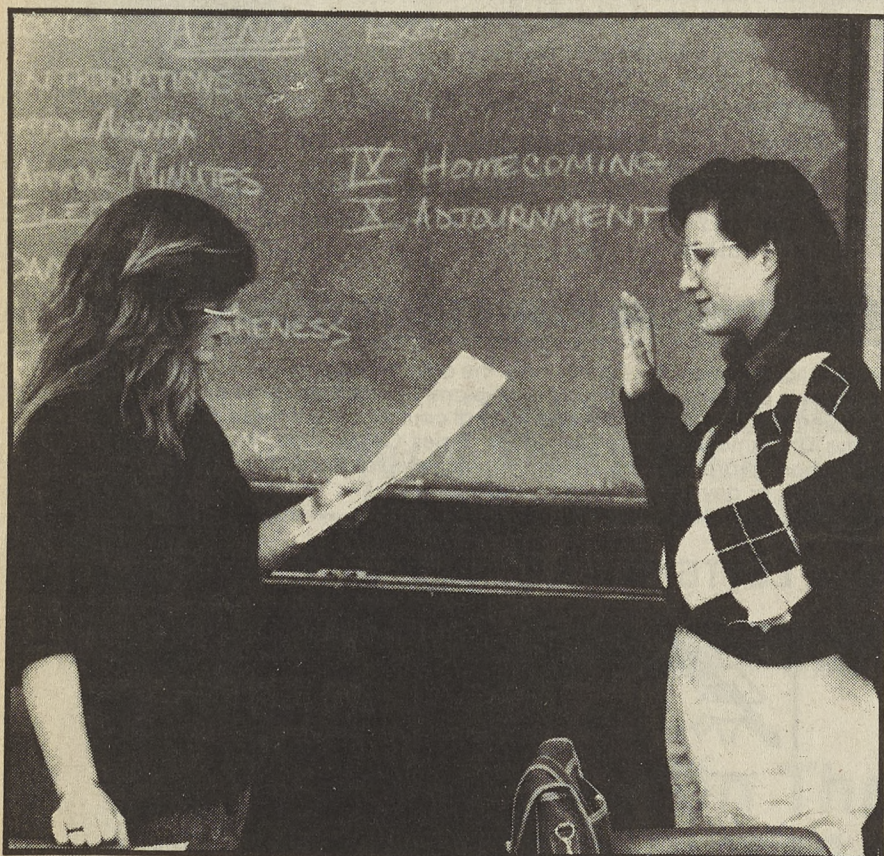
Garvin disagrees. He said the building is too expensive.

"The board of trustees originally agreed not to go over \$1.5 million a year," Garvin said.

The actual purchase price of the Wilshire building is \$14.5 million,

but by adding on other costs, such as \$1.7 million for furnishings, \$2.4 million in asbestos removal and earthquake improvements and \$54.9 million in interest and other payments, the district will pay more than \$90 million, Garvin claimed.

Sillers, however, maintains that the district will save \$6 million by buying as opposed to what they would've spent leasing.



LEN LY / Valley Star

TAKING THE STAND—New ASU vice president Stacey Scalise is sworn in by the president, Alaine Jelsviak.

Challenges apathetic students

Scalise made new ASU/VP

By JOHN PHILLIPS
Staff Writer

Does ASU Vice President Stacey Scalise really play "paint ball," a game where opponents shoot paint-firing pistols at one another for kicks?

Yes, she does.

Last weekend Scalise was taken out by her brothers for a game, her first time "paint balling."

"It was quite fun," she said. "They said I was pretty good for a beginner, so they're going to take me out again."

Scalise describes herself as an average person with a dry sense of humor. "My favorite joke is: Why

did the monkey fall out of the tree? ... because it was dead."

Although Scalise, 23, would rather be away from home and out on her own, she said her life is moving in the direction that she would like it to go in. "I work at being honest," she said, "I want to do something that makes a difference. I want to have impact."

Scalise, in her obligation as the vice president, chairs the Senate, which consists of campus club representatives. Also, she is responsible for attending executive council meetings where major decisions are voted on by herself and the commissioners.

"We have a very good Senate this year, and we work together very

well," she said.

Bringing student participation up in club/council functions is Scalise's main goal.

To achieve this, she is working with the council to make campus events more appealing to the students. She is also planning a United Club Day which will be held after Christmas vacation.

"There is a lot of apathy on this campus. I don't like it," Scalise said. "I want people to be involved."

"If you're pre-med, well then join medically oriented students," Scalise said. "If you hold this belief, well then join this group. I want to see more clubs get started and more active participation from the club

members."

Scalise, a California native, went to work after graduating from Verdugo Hills High School. "When you're out in the work force for while, you realize that you can be self-sufficient," she said.

Four years later she enrolled at Valley College, and in her first semester became a member of the Senate.

Scalise plans to stay at Valley College another year before transferring to UCLA. There she will study to become a physical therapist.

Being vice president can be a big job, Scalise said. "When I'm feeling overwhelmed, I put everything aside, take out some paper and just paint. It relaxes me," she added.

Adoption: The ultimate sacrifice

By MARIA V. JONES
Staff Writer

A middle-aged woman sat surrounded by a circle of people. As she spoke her hands moved slowly, accentuating the importance of her words. "In every adoptee's life," she said, "there is some event that triggers them to start searching."

My friend stood beside me. I had worked with her for over a year, but didn't know her very well. One day, I mentioned adoption.

She told me that she had found her birth parents! "Your search will be the most difficult thing you have ever done in your life," she said.

I sat quivering in a chair. A red-haired woman spoke to the people around me. "Do I really want to do this?" I thought. "I am looking for medical information. What would my parents think if they knew I was here?"

I trembled more. Then she looked at me. "I would like to know exactly what you are expecting before we proceed," she said. "What do you want [from your search?]"

My heart raced. Nobody had ever wanted to know how I felt about this. They all had their own opinions of why I would search.

Finally I spoke. "I want to make contact. I want to know my mother."

Of the 10 million adoptees in the United States today, 5.5 million will search for their birth parents after they reach the age of 18.

"Searching" is a term used to describe a process undergone by those finding their need to reconnect with a past too strong to be denied.

Some will search a lifetime and find very little. Others will find despair and sadness. Some will find more happiness than they ever thought possible.

No matter what the result, all will have one element in common: the return to each individual that part of their identity lost in the separation from their blood tie.

Only after this process can adoptees and birth parents begin to heal the emptiness caused by the severing of the parental relationship.

Author and adoption counselor, Betty Jean Lifton, used the term "geneological bewilderment" to describe a phenomenon documented by British psychiatrists H.J. Sants and E. Wellisch in which adoptees, having reached maturity with little or no knowledge of their natural parents, suffer a lack of connection with their hereditary and

"My heart raced. Nobody had ever wanted to know how I felt about this."

birth process. This absence of familial stories describing their birth, the lack of similarities in features or body structures and foiled attempts at identifying with others for acceptance, cause feelings of insecurity and isolation that can hamper healthy adjustment in future relationships.

"Adoption was meant to meet the needs of birth mothers who could not raise their children and the needs of adoptive parents who were unable to have children of their own," said Gail Becksted, Director at Large of the American Adoption Congress, an independent search consultant, and president of the Independent Search Consultants certification program.

"When it became a business in America in the 1930's," Becksted continued, "a system was created which sealed birth records for the purpose of protecting adoptees from their heritage."

"Adoptees," added Becksted, "have less civil rights than any minority in this country."

It used to be that there were only two groups of people in the United States that were denied access to their birth records: the criminally insane and adoptees. Now, only adoptees cannot have their own birth records!

Today, many changes can be seen in the adoption process. All adoptions finalized after January 1, 1985 include a provision stating that any adoptee born from this day forward, upon reaching the age of 21, can receive copies of their original birth records.

Open adoptions are utilized in some states encouraging mutual interaction between all members of the adoption triad, birth parents, adoptee and adoptive parents.

In this procedure, birth parents exchange letters and pictures with the adoptive family, remaining part of the adoptee's life during the growing years. This is in accordance to the wishes of the adoptive parents, until the adoptee reaches legal adulthood.

Last fall, an assembly bill was introduced in the California State Legislature that would have unsealed birth records for all adoptions finalized prior to January 1, 1985.

Assembly Bill 3907, supported by those believing that all citizens have a right to their own birth records,

"Every adoptee who reaches adulthood without knowing their biological parents loses their thread of history."

reached the Appropriations Committee, where it was defeated due to state budget concerns.

"Why search?" you ask. "Do you really need to know? Is it that important when you already have two parents who raised you?"

Yes. Every adoptee who reaches adulthood without knowing their biological parents loses their thread of history. This thread binds all of humanity, showing each birth and death as one in a line of those united by common blood.

"I am an adoptee who resides on the other side of the veil separating the heritage from it's rightful heir. I have searched and found my mother, and I have knelt at the gravesite of the father I will never know."

If we had never seen our features reflected in those of our parents, have yet to experience the bonds shared by those of common blood, have not known the love that only our real parents can have for us, then we cannot belong to humanity ... for we were never really born.

I am an adoptee who resides on the other side of the veil separating the heritage from its rightful heir. I have searched and found my mother. I have knelt at the graveside of the father I will never know.

I remember the moment I first admitted I wanted to know my mother. Three birth mothers, sitting to my right, smiled at me. They understood the longing an adoptee has for his or her birth mother. They made the ultimate sacrifice of love ... "doing what was best for the child," suffering a lifetime of anguish for their decision.

A friend once said to me, "Once you have searched, you will never be the same again."

Now I understand what she meant. I am beyond the point of no return.

I have finally come home.

Letters to the Star

AIDS: pandemic of our time

To the Editor

The opinion piece on AIDS which appeared in the November 15 issue of the *Valley Star* contains several errors. I commend the *Star* for continuing to make its readers aware of this disease, but not for the dissemination of inaccurate information.

The Opinion Editor comments that fear is warranted, but that sexual connotation is not in referring to AIDS.

AIDS is a sexually transmitted disease (STD). The primary body fluids involved in the transmission of AIDS are semen and blood.

There is no reason to fear AIDS unless one is going to engage in high-risk behavior which places them in contact with those fluids from an infected individual.

The editor also states that the cause of AIDS is unknown. The cause of AIDS was established in 1983 by Luc Montagnier as the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

The influenza epidemic of 1917-1918 was never called the Black Death. Bubonic plague, which swept through Europe in the fourteenth century, was known as the Black Death.

Whereas it is true that penicillin was not available during that epidemic of influenza, it is hardly relevant. Penicillin is not useful in the treatment of viral diseases. Influenza, like AIDS, is caused by a virus.

One cannot generalize about life expectancy of HIV-infected males, white or black. Furthermore, there are many Whites, male and female, who are compromised by substance abuse.

Why is the emphasis on Philadelphia? Los Angeles ranks among the top three cities in the United States in numbers of AIDS cases.

The Los Angeles Community College District does have a policy statement on AIDS. There is a District AIDS Committee chaired by Board of Trustees member Wallace Knox. Our own college offers a course on AIDS every semester.

That Committee and the Biology Department are committed to providing up-to-date and accurate information on AIDS.

We invite the staff of the *Valley Star* to join us in that effort by checking all information carefully. Its readers deserve to know the facts surrounding the greatest pandemic of the twentieth century.

Lois M. Bergquist, Ph.D.
Professor - Microbiology
member LACCD - AIDS
Committee

To the Editor

It is necessary to correct several points in your article on AIDS.

First, the statement "there are plenty of theories but the truth is we don't know the cause of AIDS." We do know what causes AIDS.

AIDS is caused by a retrovirus, the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) discovered by Robert C. Gallo and Luc Montagnier, although there is some controversy now as to Gallo's role in the discovery of the HIV virus.

In the two years from mid 1982 to mid 1984, the HIV virus was isolated, a blood test was formulated and the virus' targets in the body were established.

Perhaps it was an error in the choice of words and you meant to say "we don't know the origin of AIDS." The ultimate origin of the HIV virus is still unknown.

The identification of the HIV virus in African green monkeys, which is 95 percent homologous to the HIV virus in humans, has led some scientists to suggest that HIV originated first in a group of non-human primates. Due to the high mutation rate of the HIV virus it is possible that a mutation in one such strain could be the ancestor to the HIV virus that is infecting people today.

Secondly, you mentioned an analogous situation to AIDS today, the influenza of 1918 that was called the Black Death. Not so! It was the bubonic plague that was also known as Black Death.

It appeared in a second pandemic in the fourteenth century in Central Asia, Europe, India, China and the Near East. Black Death was caused by *Yersinia Pestis*, an animal pathogen transmitted

from rats to humans. It wiped out some 25 million people, one fourth of the population.

Thirdly, the discovery of penicillin would have had nothing to do with the influenza epidemic of 1917-1918 or AIDS today. Penicillin is not effective in treating viruses. Penicillin is used in treating certain bacterial infections because of its effectiveness in breaking down their peptidoglycan cell wall.

Fourth, your article is entitled "AIDS: A disease that does not discriminate." You state that "the poor are hit the hardest ... substance abuse, alcohol, drugs, smoking and poor health in general compromise the Black man..."

That in itself is a racist statement. Yes, IV drug users and persons with substance abuse problems are quite often in a lower socioeconomic class, but let's not single out the Black man.

There are persons of all socioeconomic levels, ages and races that participate in high risk behavior that compromise their health and increase their odds of exposure to the HIV virus, not just the Black man.

Fifth, why Philadelphia? Why not talk about the state you live in? The number of AIDS cases in California has increased by 25.9 percent and the number of AIDS deaths also by 25.9 percent.

Christopher, may I suggest that next semester you enroll in Dr. Bergquist's class Biology 38: AIDS - Biology and Impact, so your next article on AIDS will come from a more informed and educated point of view.

Thank you
Dr. Gregory Petropoulos

Shake speared

By ERIC BURNS
Sports Editor

Commercials, throughout the history of television, have never been popular with the majority of Americans. They do, however, serve an important purpose to those watching. They also pay for the shows to remain on the air.

Advertisements inform the public of consumer choices on the open market. While they do accomplish this most of the time, two aspects of commercials that I do not condone are the degradation of our history and the constant reinforcement of stereotypical behavior.

You see it everywhere you look, whether it be fast food, convenience stores, car tires or anything at all. When a new product comes out on the market, today's trend is toward stripping any sense of identity that we have as a people and selling out our ancestry.

I was watching a football game last Sunday between the LA Raiders and the Kansas City Chiefs on NBC. One of the first commercials shown was a 30-second spot for a well-known tire company showing a pamphlet called "Tire Tips" and Shakespeare's "Hamlet" together.

The announcer said that one of these books will give you wisdom and more knowledge about life, while the other is a play.

I nearly fisted the TV as I listened to the announcer continue to verbally debate the literary classic.

To say that this comparison was shocking to me is as much of an understatement as saying the Empire State Building is tall.

How a company can reduce one of the greatest works of literature ever published to something less than a new piece of rubber on the market is beyond my comprehension.

It is very disturbing to discover the lengths that advertisers will go in order to sell their products, to make their items special and to make sure you remember what they promote.

When you have children and adolescents watching these ads, subconsciously, they will believe that a book is not as important as a material item.

Therefore, the effects that this form of advertising has on young people, the primary television audience in America, are detrimental to our society. Education and critical thinking are

"Don't be a guinea pig for the conglomerates."

discouraged because the commercials say they are not important.

The mental destruction that is done is difficult to repair. Children will continue to grow up with the illusion that education isn't necessary.

As technology becomes more advanced, complemented by more commercials, more propaganda and the rapid advancement of our population, its influence on future generations will become stronger.

Don't be a guinea pig for the conglomerates and the corporations to feed upon. Learn what these companies are doing and the reasons for it. Do not be swayed. Make your own choices. The U.S. Constitution guarantees freedom of expression. Express yourself!

Editor's Note

The *Star* apologizes for any misinformation disseminated in its content. Whether intentional or in error, there is no quarter for misleading our readers.

The cataloging of the 1917 influenza as the Black Plague and the cause for its continuance as the lack of penicillin was due to the lack of verification of information received. We apologize for this error and we thank our readers for pointing this out.

The *Star*, however, does stand by its assertion that AIDS does not warrant sexual connotation and that AIDS does not discriminate.

It has been pointed out that AIDS is a sexually transmitted disease (STD). However, AIDS is actually a disease of the blood.

Be that as it may, sexual connotation in the context of the article speaks not of the way the disease is transmitted but of the sexual preference of those affected with AIDS. As we are all aware, AIDS is largely perceived, erroneously, as a gay disease.

While the virus causing AIDS, the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), has been isolated, it does not lead us to the cause of AIDS. Fine, you may still assert that the HIV virus causes AIDS. What then, causes the HIV virus? To this editor's knowledge, there is no known cause, nor do we know its origin.

It is also true that the title of the article "AIDS: A disease that does not discriminate" may appear to be

contradictory to the content of the article. Unfortunately, it is not so. AIDS affects everyone, regardless of sexual preference, sex, race or age.

AIDS does, however, affect certain groups more powerfully and directly than others. But again, all groups are affected.

The suggestion that the poor man and the Black man are hit the hardest merely indicates a social condition allowing the inequality of infection. It is not the preference of the disease, itself, to seek out the poor man and the Black man.

While singling out the Black man has something to do with race, it is not a racist statement. We live in a society which has never offered equal protection to all races. If the record shows that a certain people is suffering at a rate disproportionate to the rest of society, then it should be made known.

This dissemination of information is not racism. What could be termed racist, however, is a society which condones, overlooks and allows such a disparity to continue. Racism is not the result of the reporting of the facts. Racism comes from the source of these facts.

If racism is apparent, and it is, you do not question those who bring it out into the open for all to see. You question the system and the society that allows, if not encourages, such a disparity to proliferate.

No matter what the cause of AIDS may be or its racial and social implications, it is indisputably a murderous disease that demands our immediate and utmost attention. Regrettably, this attention has yet to be achieved.

Valley Star

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Editorial and Advertising Offices
5800 Fulton Ave. Van Nuys, CA. 91401
Phone (818)781-1200, Ext. 275/276
Advertising Ext.239

DORA ROMAN
Editor in Chief

Julie Bailey
Advertising Director
Represented by CASS
Advertising Service
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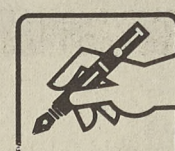
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★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★

The *Valley Star* is happy to receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers.

The *Star* reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if



they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic or religious denigrations.

Letters should be signed and, if applicable, include student's major and ID number. Letters may be presented to the *Valley Star* office, Bungalow 25, by Monday for the following Thursday.

Child care crisis

Prices going up

By JAE LEVINE WEISS
Staff Writer

A recent decision to impose fee increases at the Valley College Child Care Center really didn't address the Los Angeles Community College District's lack-of-funds problem and will hurt those least able to pay, the center's acting director charged.

Lawrence Merkle, the acting director, expressed his dissatisfaction with the District's recent decision to impose a fee increase of between 33 and 50 percent which would affect all Child Care Centers serving the nine colleges.

Merkle said he believes the hike, which will only generate an additional \$25,000 district-wide, will be "hurting the least able to pay without making a significant difference in insoluble budget problems."

"At our center, we do get additional funding through the State Department of Education that helps pay the fees of low-income families," Merkle said. "A lot of the people who would be affected [by the District cuts] will be covered by that program."

He added, however, that presently, Valley College's Child Care Center is the only one in the district to have applied for the state grant. Parents using the other eight school have no additional funding to offset the higher fee.

"Basically it's going to have an affect on the parents who are paying on the higher end, which may or may not create a hardship, depending on the family," Merkle said. "The ones who will have a harder time will be those who have more than one child in the family."

The parents who bring their children in so they can go to school in the evening will have the hardest time," he added, "and they mostly have nowhere else that their children can go."

Most of the low-income parents, who take advantage of the center, claimed they might not be able to complete their education without Valley College's affordable child-care services. Many of them are single mothers working on career goals crucial to the future of their families.

Fern Breeding is currently taking the prerequisites required to enter the nursing program. Her son Douglas, 5, is attending the center for his second year.

Asked how she felt about the fee increase, she replied: "I think it stinks, because some people are

barely making it. Gas for the car has gotten outrageous. It costs nearly \$2.50 for a gallon of milk, a dollar for a loaf of bread or eggs. That's the basics that you need in your house all the time. By the end of the week you can't even afford that, and now they're taking even more away."

What they're asking for a month in tuition is equivalent to two pairs of shoes for the family," she added.

Breeding said if she had to pay \$80 a month for child care, she would not be able to go to school. She believes mothers faced with that reality will not be able to continue their studies.

Asked if she felt the cost of child care for low-income parents attending community college should be the responsibility of the taxpayers or the parents, Breeding replied: "People have a choice. Either they pay their money to keep people on welfare indefinitely, or they give people within their community an opportunity to better themselves."

Prior to becoming a parent, Breeding said she worked hard and paid her taxes. "I feel that I need to take this time now to better myself," she said. "I deserve that chance."

Jo Ann (prefers not to use her last name) is not only a nursing student, but is also an assistant teacher at the campus' Child Care Center which her four-year-old son attends. She claimed she is not overly concerned about the affect of the fee increase on her, personally. "I would have to find out what I would have to pay," she said, "but I don't think it will affect my going to school at this point. As long as I'm working here and I have an extra income, I don't see it as a problem. I'm not looking forward to it, but if it happens I would try not to let it stop me."

As for the affect the increase could have on other low-income, single students, she said: "People who aren't working will have a problem. It's going to be very difficult for them, unless they sign up for federally funded programs that will pick up the tab, but those put a limit on how long you can go to school. Some people may have to give up their goals."

Patricia Shells' four-year-old son Jeremy is attending the Child Care Center for his second semester while she pursues a nursing degree. She freely shared her concerns about the possible detrimental affects of increased fees on low-income students and their children.

"When you're not working, there's a lack of funds, particularly being a student," Shells said. "If they raise the fees, if it doesn't prevent parents from continuing their

education, it's going to become one more problem. On top of possibly being a single parent, being low income and being a student, there will be the additional money you'll have to worry about."

She doesn't think the increase will become a deterrent to continuing her own education, but she believes for any parents affected, it will be really difficult.

"In a community setting like this one," added Shells, "they know they get a lot of low-income students, and this is just like closing the door on them. They can't get in. I can't understand why the government would want to do this," she added. "First they cut classes, and now this. It makes you wonder: what are the real priorities?"

Veronika, 3, began attending the Child Care Center this semester. Her mother, Joanna Voss, is on the board of the center's Parent Interest Club, which, among other activities, holds fund-raisers to support the program. Voss had a different opinion of the rate increase.

"This center does such excellent work, it really deserves the increase," she said. "It's operating to benefit both the student and the child, and it provides a very safe and enriching environment. The fees are very low here to begin with. The fees are on a sliding scale basis, so no matter what, the tuition is low."

She said compared to the usually exorbitant cost of child care, the center is a bargain, especially since the comfort and convenience of having quality care right on campus is an additional benefit. "People may have to sacrifice something," she said. "People who are really poor are subsidized by different programs. If they're paying out-of-pocket for child care here, and they want an education, I can't imagine their getting better price anywhere else."

Kathy Brown, a full-time business administration major, disagrees. The mother of three-year-old Dee Dee and two other children, ages 11 and 12, she said, "It's really affecting me."

Brown said, as a fixed-income, single parent, preparing for a possible rate increase means "I can't budget myself or get what I need for the kids."

If she is indeed hit with additional fees, "I might have to drop," Brown said. "At first it was the increase in college tuition and now this. I'm not saying that this should be free because the school deserves the money, but when it's going in the government's pocket, that's a different story."

Brown concluded, "I can't understand how they could do this to the children of our future."

News Notes

Early Registration

Priority registration for continuing students begins Dec. 3. For first choice of classes, mail in your registration by Dec. 14.

Operation Homefront

For every person called to Middle East, scores must wait at home... worried, anxious and often times isolated from others who share in their concerns.

The LifePLUS Trauma Recovery Team is providing FREE ongoing support groups for families and friends of those serving their country in the Middle East.

The support groups are held every Tues. from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the LifePLUS Building at 6441 Coldwater Ave. For more information call (818) 753-7171.

Child Development

The Child Development Center has openings in its evening program for schoolage children (5 thru 13 years).

Applications are available at the Child Development Center or call 781-1200 ext. 231 or 988-8570.

Please note all day classes are filled, but applications are still being accepted for Spring 1991.

Narcotics Anonymous

Narcotics Anonymous, for students who either have or think they have a drug problem, meets in Bungalow 1 daily. They meet Monday through Friday at 8 a.m., Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 8 a.m. and Sunday at 7 p.m.

There are no dues or membership fees required, only a desire to quit using drugs. Additional information is available on the bulletin board outside the ASU office (CC 102).

EVENT CALENDAR

Today-Nov. 29

11 a.m.—Campus concert, Kathleen Adams, piano and Theodore Lynn, violin, BSc 101.
Noon—Academic Senate meeting, Faculty Lounge.
TBA—Men's Basketball at Orange Coast Tournament.

Friday-Nov. 30

TBA—Men's Basketball at Orange Coast Tournament.
1 p.m.—Medically Oriented Students meeting, C 107.
7:30 p.m.—Women's Basketball vs. San Antonio at San Antonio.

Saturday-Dec. 1

TBA—Men's Basketball vs. Orange Coast Tournament.

Sunday-Dec. 2

7:30 p.m.—Campus concert, LAVC guitar ensemble, Music Recital Hall.

Monday-Dec. 3

Tuesday-Dec. 4

Noon—ASU meeting, CC 104.
1 p.m.—Students Supporting Students in El Salvador meeting, CC 207.

Wednesday-Nov. 14

Noon—GALA meeting, BSc 108.
1 p.m.—MEChA meeting, FL 111.
1 p.m.—BSU meeting, FL 112.
1:30 p.m.—Movie *Gideon's Trumpet* in BSc 101.

Single Parent

The Fall semester hours for the single parent/returning women resource center are Tuesdays 5-6 p.m. and Wednesdays 4-6 p.m. and by appointment. For more information call 781-1200 ext. 288 or 332.

Counseling

A CSUN representative will meet with transfer students every Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m.

The representative will be available in the Counseling Lobby of the Administration Building. Appointments are not necessary.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Friends of Bill W.

Alcoholics Anonymous meets in Bungalow 51 on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to noon. The meeting is open to everyone.

Night Watch

The Administration of Justice club is out to help you. If you need and escort go to Bungalow 12 or call extension 224.

The A. J. Club also needs people to work night watch. Two hours or whatever is possible one night a week for escorts, patrols and parking lot checks. For more info go to Bungalow 12 or call extension 224.

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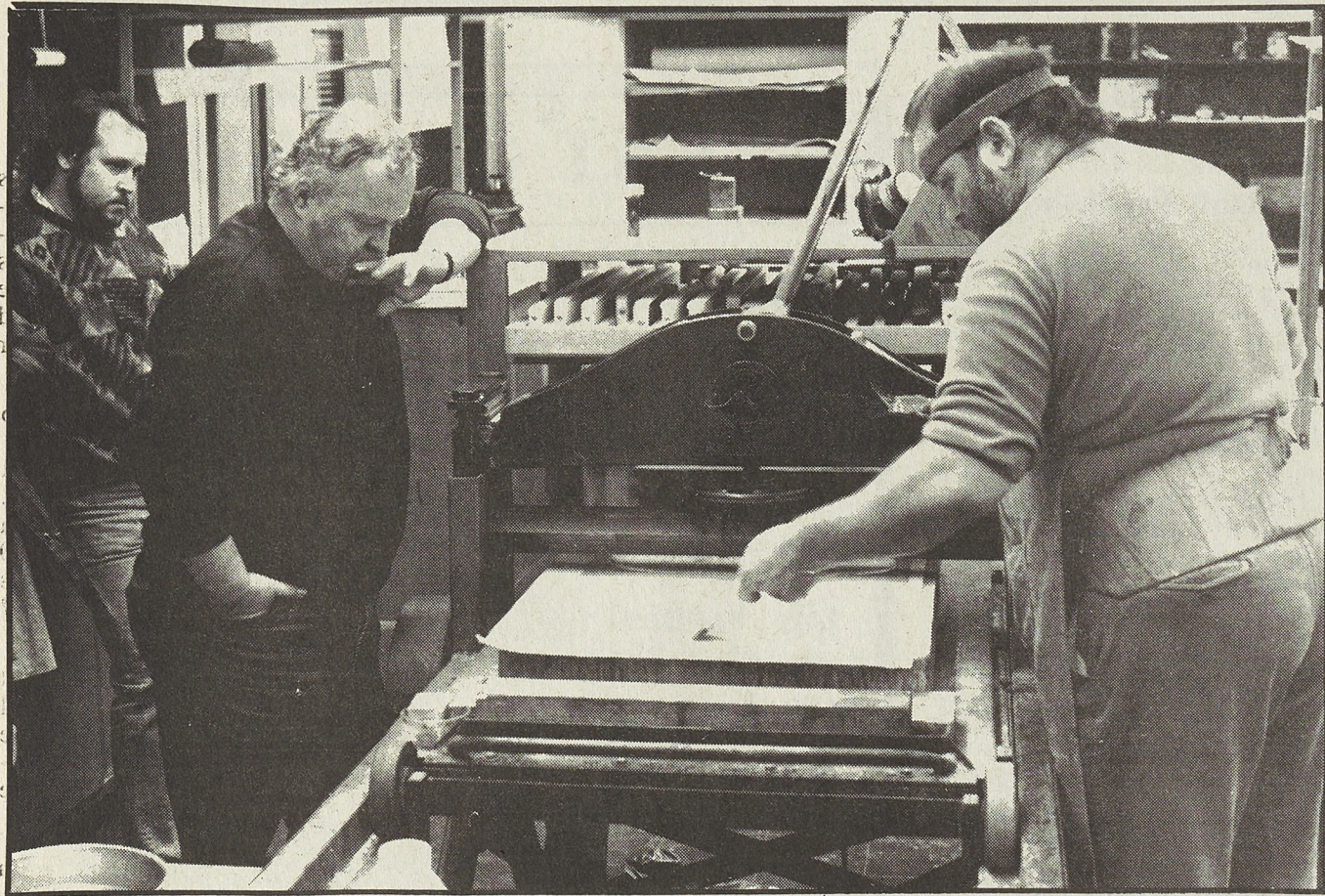
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HOT OFF THE PRESS—Oldrich Kulhanek (left) and Henry Klein await the outcome of a test print done at the LAVC print shop.

Valley hosts Oldrich Kulhanek

By GLENDA DeYOUNG
Staff Writer

Valley College graphic-arts students were privileged to witness the *Uspesne prasa (Successful Pig)* series four, by Oldrich Kulhanek, one of the Czechoslovakian artists currently on display in the LAVC Art Gallery.

During his brief one-week stay in Southern California, Kulhanek created the drawing for his series four, *Successful Pig*. The creation was then etched in stone and printed in the LAVC graphic arts lab by Henry Klein chairman of the arts department.

The artist had the luxury of being able to quickly complete his work without the interruptions of visitors or telephone calls at Klein's house.

Upon completion of the drawing, students watched and questioned Kulhanek and Klein as they worked transferring, etching and making the first printings of this famed artist's new work.

At one point, a student in the crowded lab asked Klein if he was responsible for the artist's drawing. He responded, "No, he's responsible for the drawing." Klein paused momentarily and with a glint in his eye he devilishly added, "I'm responsible for not screwing it up."

Kulhanek has been influenced by George Orwell's two books *1984*



PETER MAXWELL / Valley Star
Oldrich Kulhanek

and *Animal Farm*. His *Successful Pig* series reflects the *Animal Farm* quote "All animals are created equal; some animals are more equal than others."

The art gallery is displaying two of his Orwellian-influenced works side by side. On the left there is one of his series, two *Successful Pigs*. While viewing his *Prison of Ruzyn, Cell No. 321* on the right, the 1984 "big brother is watching you" attitude can be felt.

Kulhanek experienced a two-year period during which the Czechoslovakian secret police persecuted and arrested him every other week. He spent a considerable

time in the cell depicted in his *Prison of Ruzyn* piece.

Kulhanek is amazed that Orwell, who never experienced the conditions portrayed in his two books, could so accurately represent life in Czechoslovakia. "No author in the Soviet bloc has been able to describe [the oppression] so well as George Orwell," he said.

His *Successful Pig* series has not been patterned after any real person, however, many of his interrogators have recognized themselves in the half-pig, half-human faces. That makes one wonder, if it was the physical or political features they recognized?

Klein will be running off 70 prints for Kulhanek to add the finishing touches when he returns to Czechoslovakia. The artist usually works in three colors on white paper.

Since the paper used here has a warm light-beige tone, he may choose only one additional color accent.

Not only were the students in the lab able to hear stories about the history of previous works and general life in a Soviet bloc country, but they witnessed new work that may someday have its own history in art.

When these works are complete and hanging in galleries or collections, some fortunate Valley students will be able to say, "I saw it when..."

Album Jury

George Michael lost his Faith

Listen Without Prejudice
George Michael
CBS

Listen Without Prejudice should be retitled *Listen Without Falling Asleep*.

George Michael has lost his Faith—literally.

Michael's *Listen Without Prejudice* album leads listeners on a different path from his previous album. Where *Faith* was filled with a collection of romantic ballads and pop/dance tunes, the new album only offers Michael singing of doom and gloom.

Praying For Time, the first single, sets the pace for the rest of the material on the album. Michael sings about his lost faith in humanity: *It's hard to love/There's so much to hate/Holding on to hope/*

When there is no hope to speak of... Maybe we should all be praying for time.

Freedom '90 attempts to lighten up the material. The song is a good pop single similar to *Faith*. The subject matter in *Freedom '90* is mostly autobiographical, in which Michael expresses his dissatisfaction in being an MTV sex symbol.

The rest of the songs deal with failed love relationships, with the exception of *Mother's Pride* in which Michael sings from the perspective of a mother's reaction to a son going off to war: *Mother's pride, crazy boy/His lifeless eyes/He's a soldier now, forever more/He'll hold a gun till Kingdom Come*. The song's lyrics are thought provoking and the subject matter is timely in relation to the Persian Gulf situation.

Listen Without Prejudice also marks a change in style and sound. The songs have a more folksy/acoustic sound; more simplified. Vocally, Michael is in top form.

He is able to bring a sense of pain and emotion to the songs. Michael is at his best when he is singing romantic ballads and dance songs.

Soul Free tries to break away from the serious mood and return to the past dance-style music. The song has a good dance beat, drastically picking up the tempo.

Unfortunately, Michael ends the album on a low note. If *Volume One* is an indication of the material that will be present in Michael's next album, I'll pass. Sorry, George, the material has potential, but it's too depressing.

—Patricia Rubio

Pet Shop Boys' Behavior matures

Behavior
Pet Shop Boys
EMI



BEHAVING — Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe of the Pet Shop Boys.

With slower tempos and softer melodies, the Pet Shop Boys return with a different sound and a new *Behavior*.

After a two-year absence during which they produced music for artists such as Liza Minelli and Dusty Springfield and participated in a brief collaboration with the group Electronic, singer Neil Tennant and keyboardist Chris Lowe exchange their bouncy beat formula for a mellow and mature sound.

"So Hard," the first single off the album, is a catchy, melodic dance tune laced with Tennant's witty lyrics, "We've both given up smoking, 'cause it's fatal, so whose matches are those?" The song is about the struggle to keep a monogamous relationship.

Unfortunately, "So Hard" is only one of three tracks with a strong classic Pet Shop Boys beat. The rest of *Behavior* consists mostly of moody, atmospheric music which

accompany Tennant's autobiographical lyrics.

"Being Boring," the opening cut, deals with Tennant's decision to leave his home town, inevitably losing friends along the way. The song was partially inspired by writer Zelda Fitzgerald's quote "We were never bored, because we were never boring."

Other topics, such as love and failed relationships are discussed on "To Face the Truth," "Nervously"

and the breezy pop song "The End of the World." The latter song is reminiscent of previous Pet Shop Boys material.

Although the new musical style on *Behavior* works, it is a far cry from their usual high energy dance music. Loyal fans should be fulfilled with the new material, but *Behavior* won't be picking up a new following for the group.

—Rigo Rubio

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- Please, no smoking during a disaster situation.

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- Do not run through or near buildings where there is danger of falling debris.

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- Evacuate the building and walk to an open outdoor area.
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- Do not touch electrical wires that may have fallen.
- If you have been in a room or area where the water, gas, or electrical service might be damaged, inform the Building and Grounds Administrator in Physical Plant and the College Safety and Police Office. Someone will be assigned to turn off the utilities at the main control point.
- Except for real emergency calls, do not use the telephone.

The most important earthquake rule is TO REMAIN CALM.
Advanced planning and cool heads can limit the disaster.

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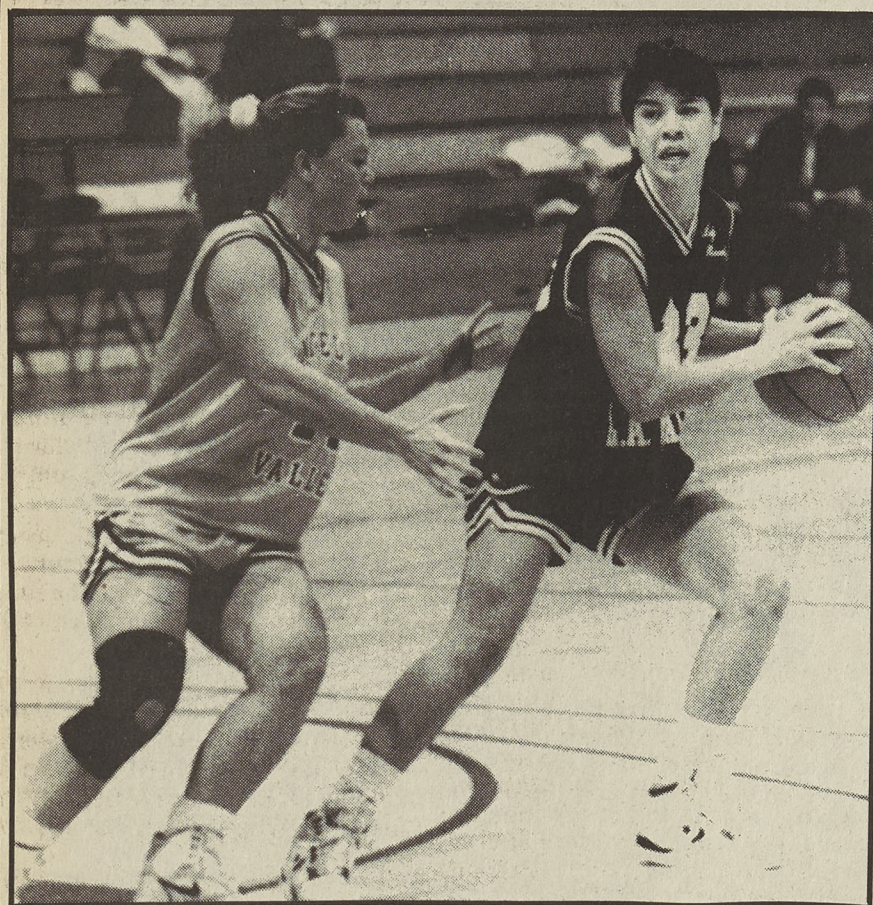
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MINE — LAVC's Sylvia Castaneda protects ball from Betsy Lund.

Upcoming Events

The Lady Monarch basketball team traveled to Antelope Valley for a 5 p.m. contest. Valley's squad ended up victorious by the final count of 75-54. The team will play on the road at Mount San Antonio tomorrow night at 7:30.

One lowlight for the game was the lack of free throw accuracy by both sides. After a tightly played first half with Valley leading 35-27, the Monarchs outscored Antelope Valley by 13 points in the second half to pull away with the triumph.

Out of their next seven contests, six out of the seven are on the road, starting with Mt Sac. on Friday. The Lady Monarchs continue onto Moorpark this Tuesday for a 7:00 contest. From there, Valley will participate in the Sequoias Invitational Tournament at Visalia from December 6-9.

Valley's sole home game will host Grossmont on December 14 with a start time of 7:30.

Compiled by Eric Burns

Eric's Express

Strawberry wears blue

What's going on with baseball that's so important? The Dodgers are going to win the 1991 World Series, that's what! L.A.'s saviour has finally arrived and his name is Darryl Strawberry.

Okay, perhaps I'm jumping the gun a little bit for that grandiose prediction, but I believe that like Kirk Gibson in 1988 (who?), Strawberry will lead L.A. to another world series conquest. He has finally rid himself on an eight-year albatross, A.K.A.: The New York media.

Can you imagine what kind of lineup they will have next year in spring training? Don't need to anymore. Based on last year's lineup, here are your 1991 Los Angeles Dodgers:

- 1) Chris Gwynn-----3B
- 2) Juan Samuel-----2B
- 3) Darryl Strawberry---CF
- 4) Hubie Brooks-----RF
- 5) Eddie Murray-----1B
- 6) Kal Daniels-----LF
- 7) Mike Scioscia-----C
- 8) Alfredo Griffin-----SS
- 9) (PITCHER)-----P

The potential for this team is limitless. Dodger Blue will reign over the National League more powerfully than Oakland (Athletics) has ruled the American League for the last three years.

Few teams have even two adequate sluggers. With this lineup injury-free, L.A. have three players, Murray, Daniels and Brooks, that hit over 20 home runs last year with Strawberry hitting 37 for the Mets. Darryl averages 31 home runs and close to 100 RBI for his career - four starting power hitters.

Keep in mind two things. First, he had wanted to leave New York for the past five years, but couldn't because of contracts. He's playing where he's wanted to play since his high school days at Crenshaw.

For the first time in his career, he has some motivation to do well. Great speed, awesome power, exceptional talent, familiar surroundings and a big money-making contract to match. What more can a player ask for? Another World Series ring? That will come in time. The second thought is that if

Commissioner Fay Vincent has his way, there will be no designated hitter in the American League by spring training of 1992. The Dodgers would show no effects from the decision, but the Athletics would have to relinquish some of their power by the proposed ruling.

I know I haven't bothered to mention the world champion Cincinnati Reds through all of this. I did now if it makes any difference. Let's be honest! Who on Cincinnati's ballclub could hit 20 home runs and get 100 RBI besides Eric Davis and Paul O'Neill? Nobody, that's who.

The DH decision, in turn, would immediately make the National League much stronger while the American League tries to compensate for lost power for at least the next couple of years, if not longer.

If you have a comment or a disagreement to make about the column, send it to bungalow 25 so that your opinion is heard as well as mine. Thank you!

Rocha fires up

By JESSICA CHAVEZ
Staff Writer

Claudia Rocha is a powerful basketball player with a great deal of talent. Currently, she is the top scorer on the Lady Monarchs' basketball team, averaging 16 points a game.

Claudia is ready to keep that Lady Monarch "winning tradition" going. Under the guidance of Coach Michelson, the 5' 10", 20 year old is able to put her talents into full use. "She has a great aptitude for basketball," says Michelson.

Her career as a basketball player began at the age of 8 in Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico. She moved to North Hollywood just three years ago with her family.

Neither she nor her four sisters had any idea they were going to stay in California. What was first thought of as a family vacation ended up being their new home.

Back in Mexico, she had it easy. Her family owned houses and lots that made life comfortable for her. Her dad brought them over to North Hollywood, "Para que se les quitara lo chiflado" (so that they could "level out"), says Claudia's father.

Her work ethic is very strong. Last semester, Claudia worked over 40 hours a week at McDonald's, while going to school full-time and playing for the Lady Monarchs. She has cut the hours at work a little, but she's not happy about it, primarily because of money.

One thing that she enjoys working on is her basketball. "The tougher the game, the more intense she gets", says Michelson. Her speed, quickness, and overall achievement can only be seen, not heard or read about. Watch out for Claudia in the court, as Michelson states, "Her green eyes light up."

Rocha's playing days began at North Hollywood High School, the home of the "Huskies". She says she likes it better here at Valley. "Bien lindas son", (they are really sweet), says Claudia about her Monarch teammates.

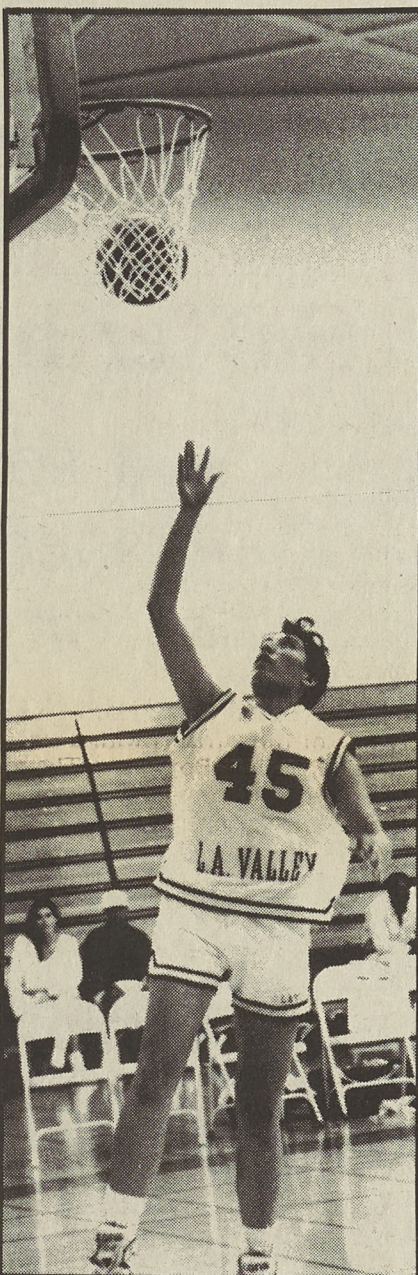
Both the coach and the team have a great way of communicating, everyone watching out for each other and "talking it up." Speaking to some of her teammates, the overall comment about Claudia was that she is a good player who is very outgoing.

Claudia feels this warmth: "Me quieren mucho" (They like me a lot), she says appreciatively. Despite being a little shy, Coach Michelson and the team make her feel at home.

Various colleges have shown interest in Claudia. Cal State San Bernardino and Azusa Pacific University have responded by offering her what she needs: an ESL program without an AA degree. She understands English very well, but she prefers to speak Spanish.

Claudia remains undecided about college while her teammates have advised her to wait for a chance offer from a more prestigious college.

Ultimately, she aspires for a career in the in the medical field.



LEN LY / Valley Star

Claudia Rocha

By ERIC BURNS
Sports Editor

When you consider the way this year's football season has gone for the Monarchs, Saturday's contest against the Santa Monica Corsairs ended very anticlimactically, yet exciting at the same time.

While Valley was not in any position for playoff games, their season finale against the highly favored Corsairs went down to the final possessions as Valley was on the short end of a 20-17 decision to end the season at 3-7 overall, losers of their final three contests.

With the Corsairs ahead 20-17, the Monarchs had a good chance of sending the game to a possible overtime. Under four minutes remained in the contest when place kicker Cunyet Karacuha attempted a 37-yard field goal. When the kick sailed wide left, Santa Monica had sealed the victory.

This was the final game in a

Monarch uniform for 21 players, including quarterbacks Trendell Williams and Mark Mengoni, kicking specialist Edward Bunn, running backs Cliff Robinson, James Keyes and Robert Augustus and defensive men Sam Edwards, Louis Melancon, Scott Charles, Marcus Walker and Jeff Ross.

"This was a very tough season for us," said head coach Chuck Ferraro. "We play in the toughest football conference in the nation. Many things came up unexpectedly, especially injuries on defense, that we had to compensate and make up for."

"It's not something you cry about, but you deal with it and we did the best we could," said the head coach.

Next season figures to be very difficult with losing two quarterbacks and three key running backs on offense, but to head coach Chuck Ferraro, it's not anything to worry about.

"Losing players is one part of being a junior college coach," explained Ferraro. "As a coach you have to keep on going. We're looking to recruit a lot of players for next year, and I'm very optimistic about 1991."

The Corsair matchup was anything but optimistic in the early stages of the ball game. With an offensive line averaging over 280 pounds per man, the Monarchs looked like they might have a long afternoon.

Santa Monica (9-2, 8-2, 4-1) displayed their high-powered passing offense on their second possession with an 80-yard pass to wide receiver Turhon O'Bannon down the middle of the field to jump on top 7-0.

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Disease epidemics: Beating the 'bugs'

By JOE DON LEWIS
and JENNIFER CASE
News Feature Editor
and Staff Writer

The age-old adage, "You can run, but you can't hide," is more true today than it ever was, especially when epidemics like the flu and the measles have invaded Southern California and even Valley College itself.

Catching the 'bug,' in this instance meaning the ominous flu virus, is definitely no joy-ride. In fact, the virus has been thriving in epidemic proportions around the country.

So much so that the government and health officials declared a national influenza epidemic last January, as reported by the *New York Times* on Jan. 26, when a new strain of flu virus, known as the Asian Flu, entered the U.S.

This recent strain is mainly believed to be the result of low-income im-

migrants entering the country from Asia. These immigrants either carry the disease unknowingly or cannot afford to seek medical assistance once in the U.S., thus compounding the contagious disease.

The flu season, which initially starts in October and November, has recently managed to afflict Valley students, teachers and administrators as well. Mike Woldeyes, a Valley math instructor, said student absences due to illness are a detriment to his class instruction.

"I have students who have had doctor appointments and have missed up to three sessions of lecture due to illness," Woldeyes said. "They start asking questions about what they have missed and to answer them takes away from class instruction time. It's a very big problem."

Mary Lou Davis, director of the Valley Nursing Program, attributed some of the recent illnesses at Valley to stress, which she said creates low resistance in students to viral infec-

tions. Davis said she is also a victim of the virus.

"We have had many nursing students out with whatever this illness is," Davis said. "I have it, and both of my secretaries have been out. Because we are unable to get substitutes, they drag themselves in. We are torn between telling them to go home instead of spreading the illness, or to stay."

Davis also said students who are sick will often attend a demanding class so as not to fall behind in their studies, but that the disease they carry is highly communicable.

At Cal State Northridge, Dr. Harry Knaster said the health center has not noticed an abnormal number of students coming in with either the flu or symptoms of the measles. However, Knaster said all state colleges and universities are required by their chancellors to give both measles and rubella (MR) inoculations to students.

The students, Knaster said, may waive the requirement, but must leave the campus in the event of an epidemic. The students can also negate the requirement if they bring proof of an MR inoculation from their physician.

Ron Bigelow, a biology professor at Valley, said he has also had many students out due to illness. "There has been a lot of people out with the flu lately," Bigelow said. "I think the flu comes along with a change of weather."

However, Diane Balus, a licensed vocational nurse and pediatrician at Kaiser Permanente in Granada Hills, said the onset of winter makes the spread of the virus worse, mainly because more people are in close quarters and more likely to contract the virus.

Furthermore, Balus believes contracting the flu virus will be almost inevitable since people tend to work in such close contact with each other, particularly in the work place and in schools. The flu virus, Balus explained, is passed on to another by minuscule droplets being spread into the air when a sick person coughs or sneezes.

The virus is inhaled through the nose or mouth, but Balus said the virus may also be passed on to another by merely handling an object which has virus residues and introducing them to the mucous membranes.

Balus also explained there are actually two separate kinds of flu symptoms pervading the Southern California area. The first flu strain, Balus said, is an enlarged symptom of the common cold, with a person suddenly being afflicted with a sore throat. The tonsils and surrounding lymph glands in the neck area may also become inflamed, Balus said. Eventually the sore throat will

disappear, Balus said, but will be replaced by sneezing and congestion of the nasal passages and excessive coughing. To make matters worse, Balus said a virus cannot be combated by antibiotics, which are designed for bacterial infections.

If a person makes an appointment with his or her doctor, Balus continued, the doctor will look for specific inflammation of the tonsils, which are usually extremely red, a sign of infection. She also said the doctor may perform a throat culture to determine if strep-throat is evident. Balus said results from a throat culture usually take from three to four days, but can be treated with antibiotics.

The second virus afflicting the area has even worse symptoms, including vomiting, diarrhea and fevers. Balus suggested people drink plenty of li-

quids to avoid dehydration and to give the body extra nourishment in combating the virus.

Balus also suggested a liquid diet that includes water, Gatorade (or some nutrient-filled liquid of the same nature), popsicles and Jell-O. Balus said a good diet to relieve diarrhea for adults and children is the "brat diet," which includes bananas, rice, apple-sauce and toast (no butter). She said this diet and a supplement of Imodium-D (not for babies) is extremely effective against diarrhea.

For students who have contracted either flu strain, Balus said the best combatant is aspirin (or like medication) and suggested gargling with

warm salt-water to ease swelling of the throat. She also recommended throat medicine that contains chloraseptic, but confided that it supplies only short-term relief.

Balus also warned against parents giving their children aspirin between the ages of 0-10 years since it has been found to create "Reye Syndrome," a poison that manifests in children and causes neurological damage; it can even be lethal.

Some of the symptoms of Reye Syndrome include lethargic actions by the child. Balus said they may also walk into walls and objects.

Unfortunately, Balus said there are no real effective preventative measures against the flu, other than receiving influenza inoculations before contracting the virus. Furthermore, Balus said this strain of flu is

persistent and difficult to be rid of. "What we have been seeing here [at Kaiser]," Balus said, "is at least five-to-seven days [of being afflicted with the virus]."

Balus, however, said there are several ways to try to relieve the symptoms of the flu. For a runny nose, Balus suggested a brand such as Sudafed, but cautioned that some nasal decongestants can have a backlash effect, with congestion coming back stronger than before. She advises consulting a local pharmacist before using a product.

Balus said a more natural way to relieve congestion is to breathe into either a humidifier, which uses cool air, or a vaporizer, which uses warm

air. In addition, Balus said it is possible to go into the bathroom and run hot water while inhaling deeply. However, she did not recommend using a sauna, which could dehydrate the body.

Balus also pointed out some of the fallacies related to flus and colds. Walking bare-footed, for instance, will not encourage illness, Balus said. Also, people who have previously had pneumonia are not more easily susceptible to the affliction later in life, unless they suffer from asthma or bronchitis. However, Balus said people whose resistance is low should avoid walking outside with wet hair, particularly in the morning or at night.

Besides the flu virus, there has also been a recent upsurge in measles around the country, especially last January as reported by the *Los Angeles Times*, Feb. 2. The article cited at least six deaths in the Southern California area this year from rubella, also known as red measles. Statewide, the article said there were 3,000 measles cases reported in 1989, with most of them in Southern California.

Dr. Loring Dales, chief of the immunization unit for the state Department of Health Services, described the epidemic as being "out of control." Dales said the epidemic could be stalled if parents immunized their children at the recommended ages of 12 to 15 months.

However, Robert Enguidanos, an epidemiology analyst, said the recommended ages of 12-to-15 months were found ineffective and were changed temporarily to six months. Enguidanos also said inoculations prior to 1980 were not as effective in raising anti-bodies as a newly developed vaccination that is currently being administered.

In addition, Enguidanos said Latino children are taking the brunt of the epidemic. He believes part of the problem is that parents are not inoculating their children until they are enrolled in school at the age of four or five.

Also, Enguidanos said mature adults might have been told they had already had measles, but in reality they might have been mis-diagnosed; mumps have similar symptoms.

Balus said measles are hard to spot, but usually creates a very red, bumpy rash all over the body, but does not itch like chicken-pox. Measles is often confused with Scarletina, Balus said, which is a compounded disease of strep-throat. Scarletina also creates a rash on the body, but the skin feels more like sandpaper when touched.

Considering the recent surge in measles, Balus urges people who are under the age of 35 to receive a measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) inoculation, which is generally being given at no charge until Dec. 14 at local health centers in various areas.



JUDE SHECTMAN / Valley Star

Suffering from . . .

- a sore throat?
- sneezing?
- congestion?
- a fever?
- a rash?
- vomiting?

... chances are you
have caught a bug.

Temperature guidelines for the sickly

Temps.—100-103°

High temperatures, particularly in children, must be watched closely. It is recommended that newborn to 2-month-old babies with a temperature of 100 or more should receive immediate medical attention.

Infants over 3-4 months old with a temperature of 101-102 should be given Tylenol mixed in lukewarm water. Caution is advised if parents attempt to lower their child's temperature by immersing him or her in a tub of water.

The water temperature should be adjusted for nor-

mal body temperature in order to avoid throwing their nervous system into shock. Extremely cold water and ice are no longer recommended in reducing a temperature, particularly since it has been found extreme changes in temperature can lead to convulsions, especially in children.

In addition, people should avoid wearing excessively warm clothes while indoors and should refrain from turning on the heat in their homes in general; this only serves to further raise the body temperature.

Also, make sure the sick person is drinking large

amounts of fluids containing substantial amounts of sugar, or just water, to avoid dehydration. Gatorade or drinks of similar content are suggested to deter dehydration and to introduce a variety of nutrients to the body's depleted immune system.

In checking young babies for dehydration, parents are advised to pinch the skin and observe whether it remains resilient or wrinkled. If the skin is wrinkled the baby is suffering from dehydration.

Furthermore, it is suggested babies be fed either Jell-O watered down into a fluid or rice fluid, which is made by boiling rice and sav-

ing the strained rice water. Sugar may also be added to the rice water to give extra nutrients to the baby.

Temps.—104-105°

Higher temperatures, even more so with children, are reason for concern and may call for expert medical attention depending on a person's age and resistance to high fevers.

Children, however, are susceptible to convulsions at these high temperatures. Administering Tylenol, not aspirin, to children up to 12 years old is recommended.

Aspirin is not advised for

children of any age in order to avoid Reyes syndrome, which can be fatal.

Adults suffering from extremely high temperatures are less susceptible to convulsions due to their resistance to fever. However, it may be wise to dress loosely and possibly immerse themselves in a tub full of water heated to body temperature.

Adults and children should also avoid trying to "sweat out a fever" by covering up in blankets; this only increases body temperature.

Information provided by LVN, Diane Balus, at Kaiser Permanente in Granada Hills.

